

HODGDON POWDER CO., INC.
BOB HODGDON
6231 ROBINSON ST
SHAWNEE MISSION, KS 66202

January 22, 2002

Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
U.S. Department of Justice
601 "D" Street .NW- Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Ms. Hesse:

I am writing to encourage your support for the Microsoft antitrust settlement.

What seems to have been lost in this case is that there was not one shred of firm evidence offered linking Microsoft to a single case of actual harm to consumers anywhere in the country. Yet, consumer harm was the premise for the launching of this suit against the company.

I believe that Microsoft's offer to pay the legal expenses of the remaining states is a sign that the company is tired of being distracted by this case – especially given the recession we find ourselves in. I believe that the American people are also growing tired of officials like Kansas's own General Stovall continuing to drag it out.

Many have lost jobs, had their savings and investments evaporate, and are watching the technology sector nose-dive. Much of which is the cause of this lawsuit.

The last thing we need in the middle of a recession is a crippled technology industry and an out-of-control litigious government. This case should have been settled long ago. The Bush Administration says so and nine other states have said so – I hope you see it that way too.

Sincerely,


Bob Hodgdon